

Application No. 10/609,120
Attorney Docket No. 11187-00016
(Endow-3)

Reply to Office Action of November 22, 2005

REMARKS

In the Office Action under reply, claims 1-32 have been examined. The Examiner has rejected all claims under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, for failing to comply with the written description requirement and has rejected claims 7-25 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as indefinite.

In the current amendment, claims 1-6, 10, 11, 17-25, 31, and 32 have been cancelled and claims 7, 8, 26, and 27 have been amended. Thus, claims 7-9, 12-16, and 26-32 remain pending in the application. The Examiner's rejections and objections are addressed in part by the above-amendments and are otherwise traversed for the reasons presented below.

THE AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 7 and 8 have been amended to incorporate the elements of now cancelled claims 10 and 11, i.e., to specify that the compound of Formula I is administered in an amount effective to increase a concentration of 5-hydroxyindoleacetaldehyde or 3,4-dihydroxyphenylacetaldehyde formed during catabolism of serotonin or dopamine. Claims 10 and 11 have accordingly been cancelled.

Claims 26 and 27 have been amended to clarify that they are drawn to compound having the structure of Formula I and to remove the unnecessary language regarding the intended use of the compounds.

Claims 1-6, 17-25, 31, and 32 have been cancelled. Cancellation of these claims is without prejudice, without intent to abandon any previously claimed subject matter and without intent to acquiesce in any rejection of record.

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THE REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112, FIRST PARAGRAPH

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-32 for failing to comply with the written description requirement. As claims 1-6, 10, 11, 17-25, 31, and 32 have been cancelled, the rejection as it pertains to these claims is now moot. The Examiner has based her rejection on the view that the claims encompass subject matter that was not described in the specification in such a manner as to convey that the Applicants had, at the time the application was filed, possession of the claimed invention. The Examiner specifically references the language "inhibiting," "modulating," and "identifying" as the basis for the rejection. As independent claims 7, 8, 26, and 27 no longer contain these terms, Applicants submit that the rejection, as it pertains to claims 7, 8, 26, and 27 and all claims dependent thereupon is now moot. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is in order and is accordingly requested.

THE REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112, SECOND PARAGRAPH

The Examiner has rejected claims 7-25 as indefinite. As claims 10, 11, and 17-25 have been cancelled, the rejection as it pertains to these claims is now moot. The Examiner has based her rejection on the view that the claim term "modulating" is ambiguous. As independent claims 7, 8, 26, and 27 no longer contain this term, Applicants submit that the rejection, as it pertains to claims 7, 8, 26, and 27 and all claims dependent thereupon is now moot. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is in order and is accordingly requested.

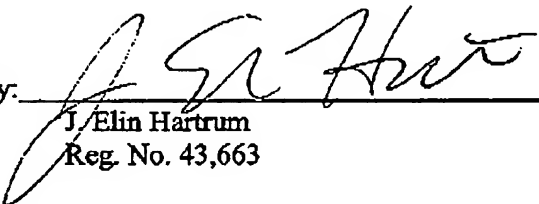
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CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that the claims are in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is requested, and a prompt mailing thereof would be much appreciated.

Should the Examiner have any questions, he is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at (650) 384-8755.

Respectfully submitted,

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